

Sir

Amongst the arguments urged to a Committee of
your house, of which you was the chairman, by an agent
of the Pennsylvania claimants, to induce a report
for the repeal of the wearing bill; one was, and I am
informed, that the members, the most active in
obtaining the law, were specially interested in it -
for in surrendering one part of the country in which
they had little or no property, they thought more
effectually to secure the undisturbed possession of
another in which they had a great deal. My
name being mentioned among these, I have waited
in town several days after the particular business
which brought me from New York was finished, in
the hope of being able to refute this miserable calumny,
but am obliged to leave it without that satisfaction,
from the absence of W Wallace, who is a general

Draught of the County of Luzerne, has made
every survey in which I have any interest, but
which there can, as I told by W. Adams, be
no accept to in his absence. I must therefore
be content with observing to the members of
the Committee that I am not a land jobber,
that all the property of mine which could have
been affected by any decision respecting the
winning controversy, was not very considerable,
that of this property I had always supposed
a large portion would fall within the limits
of the ceded territory — but be that as it may,
it is clearly in my recollection that when the
winning subject was before the House W.
Charles Stewart, Surveyor, one of the petitioners
for the appeal, and through whose hands the

lands in question chiefly came, endeavored
to convince me, that by the fact I was taking,
nearly the whole of my property would be
lost. The notes I then made as he ran over
the surveys, were mislaid, or, not foreseeing
their future use as evidence, perhaps destroyed.

I have been accused too of misrepresentation -
having declared it seems to a committee of
which I was the chairman that the Penningsham
claimants would generally acquiesce in the
proceedings of the assembly - I have but a
faint recollection of such declaration, but am
willing however to confess and justify - for this
disposition was certainly once discoverable in
them - I do not pretend it is so now - it is
possible that with the times many of them may

have changed opinions or sides — one gentleman
^{now} a leading advocate for the repeal was to my
knowledge not content only with the law, but
condemned the opposition to it as unreasonable
and vexatious.

Such observations here as go to my own
vindication, against injurious representations,
made in the presence of the Committee you will
^{suffer} ~~not~~ me to claim as a right — The following
asks for your indulgence — it is, that whatever
may be the issue of any attempt to abolish the
law, the integrity of the law itself, or the honour
of those who made it, can never justly be
impeached, unless ~~it should be~~ what is impossible,
it should be reconsidered ~~under~~ all the original
impressions which induced it. — I am with
great regard your most obed^t
William Rawle Esq^r — Gentleman

February

March 20th 1790